

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/800,972

Examiner

Dismary E. Mercedes

Applicant(s)

NAKA, HIROYUKI

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/16/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claim 13-14 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent Claim 13 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination, in particular, Dovek et al. (US 5,650,887), Jang et al. (US 2003/0117737 A1), Nakamoto et al. (US 5,969,896), do not teach or suggest: *wherein, when a read error occurs during a read operation of reading data from the disk medium, the control unit causes the actuator mechanism to move the head to a specified position on the disk medium or outside the range of the disk medium and then causes the current supply units to supply the optimum bias and write currents to the head, and wherein, if recovery from the read error fails, the control unit changes the bias current value to re-perform the read operation.*

Independent Claim 15, is the method claim drawn to the disc drive of claim 13, and is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination, in particular, Dovek et al. (US 5,650,887), Jang et al. (US 2003/0117737 A1), Nakamoto et al. (US 5,969,896), do not teach or suggest *changing the bias current value, if recovery from the read error fails after the optimum bias and write currents have been supplied; and re-performing a read operation based on the changed bias current value.*

Independent Claim 14 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination, in particular, Dovek et al. (US 5,650,887), Jang et al. (US 2003/0117737 A1), Nakamoto et al. (US 5,969,896), do not teach or suggest: *wherein, when a read error occurs during a read operation of reading data from the disk medium, if recovery from the read error fails even though a read retry operation is performed, the control unit causes the actuator mechanism to move the head to a specified position on the disk medium or outside the range of the disk medium and then causes the current supply units*

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to supply the optimum bias and write currents to the head, and wherein, if recovery from the read error fails, changes the bias current value to re-perform a read operation.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Dovek et al. (US 5,650,887), Jang et al. (US 2003/0117737 A1), Nakamoto et al. (US 5,969,896), Lum et al. (US 2004/0047063 A1), Kohno et al. (US 5,831,782).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dismery E. Mercedes whose telephone number is 571-272-7558. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 9:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Dismery E Mercedes

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